

Minutes of the Judiciary and Law Enforcement Committee - March 17, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Mitchell. Supervisor Cummings led the committee with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Chair William Mitchell, County Board Supervisors Kathleen Cummings, Mareth Kipp, David Swan, Carl Seitz, Jean Tortomasi; **Absent:** Keith Harenda

Staff Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Dave Krahn, Legis.Associate Sandra Meisenheimer

Also Present: Sheriff Dan Trawicki, Captain Eric Severson, Deputy Inspector Steve Marks, Business Mgr. Tom Koth, Financial Analyst Lindsay Johnson

Approve Minutes of March 3, 2006

Motion: Tortomasi moved, second by Cummings, to approve the minutes of 3/03/06. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Executive Committee Report by Bill Mitchell for Meeting of March 13, 2006

Mitchell said Chairman Dwyer gave a report on the NACo Conference he attended in Washington D.C. Dwyer spent a considerable amount of time talking to people from other counties in regard to board size and operations.

Reports by Committee Member Liaisons

Cummings said that Emergency Preparedness Director Tuma was at a local emergency meeting at the City of Waukesha. He indicated that the APCO (Association of Public Safety Communications Officials) study survey was expected very soon. Also, interviews for Jim Malueg's job were narrowed down to 6 candidates.

Future Agenda Items by Committee Members

Cummings suggested an update on the county and the NIMS Program which involves the training of personnel.

Meeting Approvals

Motion: Swan moved, second by Cummings, to approve attendance to the Executive Committee meeting on Monday, March 27, 2006. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 31, 2006. Tortomasi said she will not be at the next meeting.

Status Update on the Metro Drug Unit

Trawicki, Severson, Koth and Marks were present. Severson began with a brief power point on the unit. He covered the following areas: Presentation Objectives (History, Mission, Current Agency Involvement, Our Partners, Waukesha County's Drug Threat (end user community, local dealer networks, medium to large scale production of marijuana in Waukesha County), Top Drug Threats (high grade marijuana is single largest threat in Waukesha County, cocaine/crack cocaine, diverted pharmaceuticals, heroin, club drugs, methamphetamine, psilocybin mushrooms); Recent Drug Seizure Data; 2005 Forfeitures; and Funding Sources.

Mitchell asked do the drugs come in through gangs or business people? Severson said the heroin traffic is primarily Nigerian drug trafficking organizations that are moving heroin up through a

variety of different channels. It is coming in through New York, Florida and Mexico and not by gangs but certainly as an organized effort by focused heroin traffickers.

Severson said that Human Services is putting together a methamphetamine response protocol, and he is on the committee. They are trying to identify the kinds of things to deal with for endangered children of methamphetamine families, clean-up issues, toxic waste problems, etc. He said a plan is needed.

Severson said the challenges he sees in the future are the elimination of the Byrne-JAG grant in 2007, loss of task force participation due to shrinking budgets in parent agencies, making up for lost resources, and convincing local officials of the need for proactive drug law enforcement. He stated that there is a lot of pressure on a lot of entities. Everyone is trying to do the best job they can and maximize their efforts. It is a cooperative effort.

Tortomasi asked do you have a maximum length of time a person can be part of the Metro Unit? Trawicki said usually one to three years. What kind of training is needed? Severson said everyone goes through a variety of training which includes drug investigation school. They usually are relatively seasoned officers and have been with their agencies for quite some time.

Swan asked how do you see the future? Trawicki said it is difficult when there are shortfalls of staff and they look at hiring. It comes down to dollars. He stated this is the single most critical budget there is. The problem is they won't know until October or November what they will receive from the Bryne grant. They are looking at a \$200,000 shortfall that he will be asking the county to pay for. Trawicki said he has made the County Executive aware of the situation and also indicated he is letting everyone know. This is an educational process. Swan agreed that the County Executive should be aware of what is going on. Mitchell said he appreciates hearing about this ahead of time and not during the budget process.

Consider Proposed Ordinance: 160-O-135 Accept Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Program Grant Award (2006) and Appropriate These Funds to the Sheriff's 2006 Budget

Trawicki explained the ordinance, which authorizes the acceptance of the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$5,500. Waukesha County partnered with the City of Waukesha to receive half of the \$11,000 grant award. It will be used to upgrade audio and video recording capabilities of two interview rooms used by the detective bureau.

Motion: Cummings moved, second by Tortomasi, to approve Ordinance 160-O-135. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Consider Proposed Ordinance: 160-O-136 Amend 2006 Sheriff's Department Budget Expenditure of Seized Funds – March, 2006

Trawicki explained the ordinance, which authorizes the Sheriff's Department to participate in a federal program that transfers forfeited assets (seized funds) to those state and local agencies that contributed directly to the seizure of that property. Appropriation of \$9,300 will be distributed to Metro Drug Unit participating community police agencies which include the City of Waukesha (\$3,700), City of New Berlin (\$617), City of Muskego (\$1,300), Village of Mukwonago (\$225), City of Brookfield (\$1,543), Village of Pewaukee, and Village of Menomonee Falls (\$1,769).

Motion: Kipp moved, second by Cummings, to approve Ordinance 160-O-136. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Legislative Update

Krahn distributed his report (as of 3/17/06) of legislation pertaining to the committee. The items on the report that are bolded show where there has been some activity. Krahn covered the following bills, which are all detailed in his report: AB 152, AB 680, AB 969, and AB 1038 (SB625).

Motion to adjourn: Cummings moved, second by Swan, to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mareth K. Kipp
Secretary

/sm